IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A purified complex consisting of ~~comprising~~ one molecule of endotoxin bound to one molecule of MD-2~~, wherein the complex consists essentially of one molecule of endotoxin bound to one molecule of MD-2~~.

2. (Original) The complex of claim 1, wherein the endotoxin is a wild-type endotoxin.

3. (Original) The complex of claim 1, wherein the endotoxin is a gram-negative bacterial endotoxin.

4. (Original) The complex of claim 3, wherein the gram-negative bacterium is a *Neisseria, Escherichia, Pseudomonas, Haemophilus, Salmonella*, or *Francisella* bacterium.

5. (Original) The complex of claim 4, wherein the gram-negative bacterium is *Neisseria meningitidis, Escherichia coli, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Haemophilus influenzae, Salmonella typhimurium*, or *Francisella tularensis*.

6. (Original) The complex of claim 1 having a molecular weight of about 25,000.

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Original) The complex of claim 1, wherein the complex is soluble in water.

9. (Original) The complex of claim 1, wherein the complex binds to TLR4.

10. (Original) The complex of claim 1, wherein the complex produces TLR4-dependent activation of cells.

11. (Currently Amended) The [[A]] purified complex of claim 10 ~~comprising endotoxin bound to MD-2~~, wherein the complex is administered at a concentration of less than 1 nM ~~produces TLR4-dependent activation of cells, and wherein the complex~~ produces a half maximal TLR4-dependent activation of cells ~~at a concentration of less than 1 nM of the complex~~.

12. (Currently Amended) The complex of claim 10 [[11]], wherein the complex is administered at a concentration of less than 30 pM produces a half maximal TLR4-dependent activation of cells ~~at a concentration of about 30 pM or less of the complex~~.

13. (Currently Amended) A purified complex comprising endotoxin bound to MD-2, wherein the endotoxin is selected from the group consisting of hexa-acylated endotoxin, under-acylated endotoxin, penta-acylated endotoxin and tetra-acylated endotoxin.

14. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The complex of claim 13, wherein the purified complex ~~comprising~~ consists of one molecule of endotoxin bound to one molecule of MD-2~~, wherein the endotoxin is an under-acylated endotoxin~~.

15. (Currently Amended) The complex of claim 13 [[14]], wherein the endotoxin is a tetra-acylated endotoxin.

16. (Currently Amended) The complex of claim 13 [[14]], wherein the endotoxin is a penta-acylated endotoxin..

17. (Currently Amended) The complex of claim 13 [[14]], wherein the complex produces less TLR4-dependent activation of cells when the endotoxin is under-acylated as compared to a complex comprising an endotoxin that is hexa-acylated.

18. (Currently Amended) A composition ~~comprising a~~ consisting of the purified complex ~~comprising endotoxin bound to MD-2~~ of claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

19. (Cancelled)

20. (New) The complex of claim 13, wherein the endotoxin is under-acylated.

21. (New) The complex of claim 13, wherein the endotoxin is hexa-acylated.

22. (New) A composition comprising a purified complex comprising endotoxin bound to MD-2, wherein the endotoxin is selected from the group consisting of hexa-acylated endotoxin, under-acylated endotoxin, penta-acylated endotoxin and tetra-acylated endotoxin and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

23. (New) The complex of claim 22, wherein the endotoxin is hexa-acylated.

24. (New) The complex of claim 22, wherein the endotoxin is under-acylated.

25. (New) The complex of claim 22, wherein the endotoxin is a tetra-acylated endotoxin.

26. (New) The complex of claim 22, wherein the endotoxin is a penta-acylated endotoxin.